In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel for holding ~~hot and~~ melting metals, holding molten metals, and ~~to~~ transporting said liquid metals, the vessel ~~and~~ comprising:

a selectively open and closed cover ~~comprising a surface and a displaceable furnace riser pipe of the closed vessel on the cover~~;

at least one of resistive heater elements- and inductive heaters;

at least one discharge channel;

a~~n open or a closed~~ cavity within ~~an inside space of~~ the vessel;

at least one ceramic thermally insulating layer of at least one of a fiber and an expandable material forming a textile surface structure ~~subtending the inside space of the vessel~~covering the internal surfaces of the cavity and the at least one discharge surface~~; and~~

~~a textile 3D-surface structure lining the cavity~~.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that ~~when open , the metal vessel comprises a hot-holding, ladling and melting furnace, and that when closed the metal vessel comprises at least one of a hot-holding furnace, a low-pressure casting furnace, a low-pressure metal transporting furnace, and a liquid-metal transporting vessel~~the textile surface structure has high shock strength, thermal strength, and high coefficient of elasticity.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the textile ~~3D-surface~~ structure ~~lines the cavity, the at least one discharge channel, and the cover surface integrally in at least one seamlesslayer~~ has a low thermal conductivity and a low accumulation of heat.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim ~~3~~1, characterized in that the ~~surfaces of the at least one layer of~~ textile ~~3D-surface~~ structure ~~comprises a coating depending on metal requirements~~is of low weight and can comprise a plurality of layers.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim ~~3~~1, characterized in that the textile 3D~~-surface~~ structure~~-~~ is made of textured ~~at least one of glass and~~ ceramic fibers.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the ~~at least one thermally insulating material subtending the inside space of the metal vessel is a seamless, upwardly open insulating housing~~textile surface structure can be lined.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the at least one thermally insulating ~~material~~ layer is ~~at least one of glass foam, glass fibers, ceramic, and fiber-ceramic materials~~affixed to at least one of an inner surface of the cover, an engaging pin, and a fixed pin.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim ~~1~~7, characterized in that the at least one thermally insulating layer is seamless~~of heater elements and inductive heaters comprise protective substances mounted in the metal vessel and made of at least one of glass, glass fibers, and fiber ceramics~~.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 7~~1~~, characterized in that the ~~displaceable furnace riser pipe is both centered and guided by a bushing on the furnace cover and is displaced by a drive system)~~at least one thermally insulating layer has seams.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed by claim 7~~1~~, characterized in that the ~~metal vessel is received by at least one of an additional, sealable single and collecting container when closed~~at least one thermally insulating layer is made of glass foam.

11. (NEW) The metal vessel of claim 7 wherein the at least one thermally insulating layer is made of ceramic fiber.